

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0022] with the following amended paragraph:

[0022] Another example of the retaining mechanism 128 may be a latching device, similar to the latching device 400 shown in Figure 4. The latching device 400 may comprise a latch assembly 402 including a pair of bullet or ball shaped elements ~~402~~ 404 that may be biased by a spring, such as a coil spring ~~404~~ 406 or the like, as shown in Figure 4. The latch assembly 402 may be disposed within a first or inner tube 408 with the bullet shaped elements ~~402~~ 404 extending through an openings 410 formed in opposite sides of the first tube 408. Each bullet element 404 may include a rim 412 or land to retain the bullet element 404 within the first tube 408. The first tube 408 may slide within a second or outer tube 414. Openings 416 may be formed in opposite sides of the second tube 414 to receive at least a portion of the bullet elements 404 to retain the first or inner tube 408 in position relative to the second or outer tube 414. In the example shown in Figure 4, the first or inner tube 408 may correspond to the handles 104 and 108 with a similar latch assembly 702 being disposed at each of the first and second openings 134 and 136 in Figure 1. The second or outer tube ~~714~~ 414 may correspond to the first channel guides 124 in Figure 1.

Please replace paragraph [0026] with the following amended paragraph:

[0026] Referring also to Figure 2, in another embodiment of the present invention, a second opening 202 may be formed in the bracket 148. The second opening 202 may be aligned with the opening 504 (Figure 5) formed in the frame 144 of the platform 142 when the platform 144 is rotated into the operative position to support objects as shown in Figure 2. The releasable locking pin 506 (Figure 5) may then be inserted through the ~~aligned openings~~ second opening 202 and the opening 504 when aligned to retain the platform 142 in the operative position to support objects, such as an ice chest 204, a water cooler 206 (shown in phantom in Figure 2) or other objects. The objects may be secured to the cart 100 by straps 208, bungee cords or the like (not shown in Figure 2) attached to eyelets 210 or similar fastening devices.

Please replace paragraph [0030] with the following amended paragraph:

[0030] Figure 7 is a detailed cross-sectional view of an exemplary releasable pin arrangement 700 that may be used for the retainer assembly ~~162~~ 164 in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. A first opening 702 may be formed in the support leg 158 and another opening 704 may be formed in the frame 144 of the platform 142. A releasable locking pin 706 may be inserted through the first opening 702 and the opening 704 in the frame 144 when the openings are aligned to retain the support leg 158 in the operative or extended position as illustrated in Figure 2. A second opening 708 may be formed in the support leg 158 on an alternate side of the fastener 162 from the first opening 704. With the locking pin 706 removed, the support leg 158 may be pivoted to the non-operative or retracted position where the second opening 708 and the other opening 704 in the platform frame 144 are aligned. The releasable locking pin 706 may be inserted through the ~~aligned openings~~ second opening 708 and the other opening 704 when aligned to retain the support leg 158 in the non-operative or retracted position as shown in Figures 1 and 3. A keeper wire 710 or lanyard may be attached to the detent or locking pin 706 and to the fastener 162 to prevent the locking pin 706 from being lost or misplaced. Accordingly, the cart 100 may be disassembled and re-assembled without the need for hand tools or the like.